



Washington State Department of

Early Learning

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Early Achievers Review Subcommittee Charter

A. Purpose

The Early Achievers Review Subcommittee provides feedback and guidance on strategies to improve the quality of instruction and environment for early learning and provides input and recommendations on the implementation and refinement of Early Achievers. The subcommittee uses a racial equity lens and considers cultural and linguistic responsiveness in the analysis and recommendations.

B. Objectives, Deliverables, Timeline and expected number of Meetings

The objectives of the subcommittee are to review all substantial Early Achievers policy changes; help develop a protocol for granting Early Achievers program participants an extension in meeting rating level requirement timelines; and to conduct a review as part of the annual progress report required by Section 18 of the Early Start Act. At a minimum the review shall address the following:

- (i) Adequacy of data collection procedures;
- (ii) Coaching and technical assistance standards;
- (iii) Progress in reducing barriers to participation for low-income providers and providers from diverse cultural backgrounds, including a review of the Early Achievers program's rating tools, quality standard areas, and components, and how they are applied;
- (iv) Strategies in response to data on the effectiveness of Early Achievers program standards in relation to providers and children from diverse cultural backgrounds;
- (v) Status of the life circumstance exemption protocols; and
- (vi) Analysis of Early Achievers program data trends.

The deliverables, timeline and anticipated number of meetings for 2016 are outlined in the table below. More meetings may be scheduled with options to participate by phone or webinar.

| 2016 Meetings | Meeting Topics |
|---------------------------------|--|
| End of January | Early Achievers 2.0: Review substantial policy changes, rating tools, quality standard areas and components, coaching and technical assistance. |
| End of March/Beginning of April | Early Achievers 2.0 |
| End of August | Annual Progress Report development |
| September | Annual Progress Report development |
| October | Annual Progress Report development |
| November | Annual Progress Report development |

C. Structure

The Early Achievers Review subcommittee is a standing committee of ELAC. The structure and anticipated work groups are: Two to three members of the subcommittee will work with DEL staff to plan and debrief meetings. These members will commit to serve for a six month period, either from January to June or July through December. Anticipated work groups include:

Comment [JE(1): Clarify what level of changes bubbles up to this subcommittee. Substantial impacts v. procedural shifts.

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- Accreditation approval process
- Strengths and needs of immigrant, refugee and low-income children, families and providers
- Cultural and linguistic responsiveness
- Data collection

D. Key Context and Considerations

Key context and considerations that will inform the Committee's work are:

- The ELAC Racial Equity framework, including principles and questions.
- Taking a cCultural humility approach. and
- Impacts on diverse cultural and linguistic communities-responsiveness.
- Using both quantitative and qualitative data to identify issues and tell the story.